

THE BEE.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT 1107
F STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

W. C. CHASE, Editor and Proprietor.
C. C. STEWART, Business Manager.
G. W. STEWART, Assistant Business Manager.

Entered at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
6 months \$1.00
12 months \$1.80
Single copies 5c

ADVERTISING RATES:
One inch, one month \$1.00
One inch, six months \$5.00
One inch, one year \$9.00
Special notices, 50 cents each.
Ten lines constitute an inch.

All communications pertaining to business must be addressed to the Business Manager. For publication and on private business must be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor. In conjunction with the Bee, the managers have established a News Bureau of the Colored Press. We are prepared to furnish biographies, special correspondence and news items at a reasonable price. The object of the bureau is to furnish colored journals with special Washington letters when they have no special correspondent. We have some of the best writers in the country connected with the bureau, which will enable us to furnish truthful, spicy and concise correspondence. Give the News Bureau a call.

Mr. Spencer Murray, Jr., has our thanks for a copy of the American Manufacturing interests. Our genial friend Spencer never forgets the Bee.

The exercises of the Law's Seminary, were one of the most interesting we have listened to this season. We don't agree with the doctor's criticism on our colored public schools.

The Bee staff are under many obligations to Messrs. George Myers, Wm. J. Carroll, Robert Spriggs, and Hiram Waddy, Esq., for hospitalities, attention, and other considerations that they extended last week while in the Monumental City. Baltimore, like all other big towns, may lack in some things, but she never does in hospitality. The nearest way to a man's heart is down his throat, and that's the way they got to ours.

The action of the Democratic party is a sufficient evidence to convince the negro that it is dangerous for them to make any concession whatever with the party. If such liberal policy as that of Mahone's is carried out throughout the country, then there would be some inducements for the negro to go blind in politics. The fact is, the republican party will never be the enemy to us that the democratic party has been and will be. Those negroes who are inclined to be democrats, seem to forget from whence they come. We cannot so soon forget that gratitude we owe to the Republican party.

IT IS UNTRUE.

It is said that the real opposition to the national convention of colored men had its origin in the belief that Mr. Douglass wished, by means of this convention, to start a Douglass boom for Vice-President, and that to his end, he and his friends were doing everything in their power to ignore Senator Bruce. Naturally, the friends of Senator Bruce resent this, and when it is known to be the fact that Mr. Douglass is trying to have Senator Bruce ignored, Mr. Douglass will not have easy sailing in any convention. The colored people are proud of the record of Mr. Douglass, and regard him, without doubt, the most distinguished colored American living or dead. But they do not want him to represent them, either as Vice-President or in the Cabinet, to the exclusion of Senator Bruce. The probabilities are that if the Republicans get the next administration, their President will give a cabinet position to the colored voters. If so, the Southern colored people do not want such a haughty and unsocial man as Mr. Douglass to represent them.—*The People's Defense.*

The Defense does Mr. Douglass an injustice. Neither Mr. Douglass nor Senator Bruce are candidates for the cabinet. The people of the United States demand that Hon. B. K. Bruce be placed in the cabinet, and the people will make a similar demand at the coming colored convention. We are entitled to a portfolio by virtue of our votes and fidelity to the Republican party. The people here know that the Defense don't know what it is talking about when it makes such a charge as the above against Mr. Douglass. No one would denounce Mr. Douglass sooner than we if we were assured that Mr. Douglass was opposed to Senator Bruce; but we are confident that this gentleman had no such intention entertained. The Defense will please correct the error. We are for Senator Bruce first, last, and all the time.

MIXED SCHOOLS.

There is a difference between practical and theoretical results. What we want is the best practical results. In the economy of nature the different kingdoms are equals in making up a perfect whole, even as equals are equals in mathematics. The spirit of the times show that the principle of separate schools is more conducive to good results than mixed schools can ever do at present. There can be no immediate good from mixed schools, without there is a mutual demand for them by both races. We are the ones best qualified by the ties of nature and wholly responsible for conducting our

own affairs, and making our race what we would have it to be, without shifting the responsibility on others. We must and ought to do our own work. With trustees that are progressive, teachers that are capable, and having the same course of study as the whites, there is no reason why we should not produce graduates which will compare favorably with any other race.

If our trustees or teachers do not do their duty, get those that will. Childhood is not the time to measure equality in aims, letters or arts, for it is only in after years, when their powers have been matured, that we can tell the worth of men and women; and it is only then that they will candidly acknowledge equals. The hard and ungenial facts which we are forced to notice, where mixed schools are being tried, convince us that they will do more to impress our children that they must forever be dunks and servants than anything else. Take, for instance, Camden, N. J., where they have mixed schools. We think of the fact with rage, indignation, shame and chagrin that helpless colored children should be imposed upon by white trustees and white teachers; that they should be forced to occupy a corner designated as the negro corner, not be allowed to recite with the white children, or even play at the same hour. Yet the sopists tell us mixed schools will break down prejudice; they will do more to foster race hatred and curdle the milk of human kindness than anything we know.

The whites being in a majority whenever there should be a teacher appointed, he or she should be white, as in the case of Miss Ada Le Count. All our colored ladies who have labored hard to be accomplished for teaching would very soon have to quit the stage of their usefulness. Now who are more fit to educate our children than those of our own race, who have the same destiny and are bound to us by the closest laws of consanguinity. Those who are dissatisfied should investigate the case without any far-fetched ideas, and they will be more than convinced that we are doing well, and all we want to do is to let well alone.

THE REUNION.

Louisville, in September, when the National Convention meets, will present a spectacle worthy of more than a passing notice. There was a time, not long ago, that did not admit of colored men assembling together as will be the case this fall. There we shall see rising men (and we hope many ladies also) from the East, the West, North and South. The soldier in our army, the sailor in the navy, the scholar, the statesman, the man of business, the banker, and men and women from all the commendable walks and pursuits of life, demonstrating by their success in life, what a people are capable of doing with the stunted and cornered opportunities that we have had during the past fifteen years. The Convention will bring together men and women from different sections of the country, who only know each other by reading of their deeds and works, they will now have an opportunity to become personally acquainted, compare notes, and learn from each other by personal contact. Many things that will be of rich advantage in the future.

The more we hear of the convention, the less do we think that there is the least chance for such a royal gathering being turned into a "political hippodrome." We count upon a gathering of intellectual men and women, and trained scholars and practical business people, that will know how, and to the best advantage, to present our grievances to the American people; and if we are not very much mistaken, other things than booming somebody's political prospects will engage the time of conference.

Assuming that the convention will be a representative body, we venture to suggest that the treatment of colored citizens on steamboats and railroads in the South receive respectful and intelligent consideration. Also that some notice be taken of the recent decision of the United States District Judge in Texas as to his construction of the intent and meaning of the 15th amendment and the laws, according to his interpretation, as to their enforcement. This question should be met fairly and squarely. If we have the power to demand a full enforcement of the law in Maryland, Texas, through a United States Judge, should not be permitted to set it one side, and call it a playing thing? Radicals put on paper to tickle the vain pride of negroes with."

The late decision in Texas is just this much, nothing more.

We have a perfect right to assume that it would have been the same in Georgia had the case of Bishop Campbell come to trial, but why so? Because, in Georgia the government prosecuting officer, the United States District Attorney like the Texas judge, entertains democratic pro-slavery principles, notions and convictions in regard to the law, the principles and the policy of the amendment and the slavery law, in strict accordance with the suggestion above.

Is there a remedy? We think so and what is it?

There are certain States in the country with full anti-bulldox stuffing North, where colored men are not murdered like cattle for being republicans, our votes are counted, and in many instances we hold the balance of power. Now suppose at Louisville, this question be made a living issue. Then what? Why this, we pledge, not to support any candidate for the legislature in the states, until such candidate gives us unequivocal pledges and assurances that if elected, he will vote for no person for United States Senator, who will not promise that when he gets to the Senate, to vote no confirmation, for any person for United States judge, district attorney or marshal that is not in concord and sympathy with the full enforcement of the 15th amendment, and the laws made for its enforcement.

COLORED PEOPLE HONORING DORSEY AND BRADY.

A MASS MEETING AND BANQUET AT THE PHILADELPHIA HOUSE—SPEECHES AND RESOLUTIONS, ETC.

About three thousand colored people assembled in front of the Philadelphia House Tuesday evening, and held a meeting in honor of the acquittal of ex-Senator S. W. Dorsey and General Thomas J. Brady, the late first assistant postmaster general. The demonstration was one of the largest that has ever been witnessed in Washington. About half-past nine o'clock Mr. Daniel W. Lewis, a young lawyer in this city, stepped in front of the platform that had been built, upon which was seated a band of music, and called the vast assemblage to order, in which he said that the colored people had not come out to vindicate the innocence of any particular man, but to seal with approbation the fact that even in Washington, where all the corrupting influences of the national government flow at high water mark, there had been found twelve men who had sent the lesson forth like electricity to every village, hamlet and town, telling the ignorant and the wise, the low and the humble, that the greatest safety and protection of an American citizen lie behind an honest jury. This verdict stamps as an infamous falsehood the assertion which has so often been made, that so great is the corruption of Washington that it is difficult to find honest jurors. This is important to the people of the District of Columbia, because the rights and liberties of ourselves and families depend upon the integrity of honest juries. The famous proceedings of the famous trial have gone down into history to be cherished by the memory of coming generations. Whatever may be the moral impression, such a verdict must carry with it the force and power of restoring broken confidence, and place the accused upon so high a plain of honor as to be beyond the reach of calumny or the smirching of the press.

At the conclusion of Mr. Lewis's speech the band played a national air. Colonel Ezra N. Hill, of Arkansas, was introduced, and spoke at some length of the outrages perpetrated by the government in their efforts to force a conviction of five innocent men. He had been one of several millions of men who had once gone out to fight this Government, and had been licked like the devil. These defendants were five men who had fought for that same Government, and had come off victorious. If the colored race had ever had a constant, sincere and influential friend and advocate it was Stephen W. Dorsey, and they did right to demonstrate their joy at the vindication of so true a friend. The speaker had not come to make a speech, but to thank them on behalf of ex-Senator Dorsey and Dorsey's family, and all honest men and upholders of law and justice, for their demonstration in honor of this great victory of right.

Mr. J. W. Tancil was then introduced and read the following resolutions adopted by the colored men of the District. Whereas, a jury of his countrymen, selected without reference to party affiliations, color or race, has declared the Hon. S. W. Dorsey not guilty of the charges preferred against him. And whereas we have never believed him to be guilty of these charges, but to be an honest, upright citizen. Therefore,

Resolved, That we rejoice in the verdict which frees the name and fame of Stephen W. Dorsey from the accusations which were sought to be put upon him.

Resolved, That we recognize in him an honest man; a Republican in principle; a friend of the colored man; a gallant soldier, and a citizen without reproach.

Resolved, That his career as a soldier in the great war, which gave freedom to our race, entitles Stephen W. Dorsey to the gratitude and esteem of every colored man.

Resolved, That as a Republican, standing squarely for the doctrine that every man, "without reference to race, color, or previous condition of servitude," should be equal before the law, Stephen W. Dorsey is entitled to the unequal approval or every colored man in the country, and that each and every one of them should rejoice that he has been "honorably" acquitted of the charges made against him.

Resolved, That as a Senator in Congress, Stephen W. Dorsey devoted much of his time and gave much of his intellect for the benefit of the people of the colored race, and they owe him thanks for his unthought efforts in their behalf.

Resolved, That the people of the District of Columbia are indebted to Stephen W. Dorsey for his efforts in their behalf while he was a Senator of the United States, and for them and ourselves we tender him the thanks that are due him.

Resolved, That we tender to Stephen W. Dorsey for ourselves and our people the most sincere congratulations that he was tried by twelve honest men, whom neither fear nor favor could induce to do him aught, but the justice of an honorable acquittal.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of Stephen W. Dorsey our hearty congratulations on his triumphant vindication, as we gave to them our sincerest sympathies during the long and dreary days of their tribulation.

Resolved, That we consider the ac-

quittal of Stephen W. Dorsey, not only a vindication of him, but a triumph for truth, justice and right and a subject of congratulation, not only to him and his friends, but to all the people of the country.

Resolved, That the action of this jury shows that within the threshold of the most powerful Government of the world, which had brought every means known to power for conviction, and where almost every citizen depended more or less upon the shavings that fell from the public Treasury for their livelihood, the heroic fact has been made of record that neither Government officers nor power could seduce twelve honorable men to commit an act of injustice.

C. C. Colwell and Mr. Mack, of Ohio, also delivered addresses.

After which, those who had been invited to partake of the spacious festivities, assembled in the spacious parlors of the Philadelphia House and partook of the choicest viands. Everything was arranged in the best of order and great credit is due to Messrs. Williams and Meredith for their fine bill of fare. Mr. C. C. Colwell, of Mississippi, acted as toast master, and several toasts were drunk to the jury and the defendants in the Star-Route trial. Mr. C. C. Colwell said was entirely in defense of Mr. Brady.

THE LAW'S SEMINARY.

INTERESTING CLOSING EXERCISES—DECLAMATIONS, ESSAYS, MUSIC, ETC.—CERTIFICATES OF SCHOLARSHIP AND MEDALS PRESENTED—AN ADDRESS BY MR. W. C. CHASE—TRIBUTE TO BRUCE AND FREEDOM—DOUGLASS—IN THEM ARE THE ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS.

There were about seven hundred people assembled at the Virginia Ave. Baptist Church on last Friday evening, the occasion being the closing exercises of the Law's Seminary. The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers, and on either side of the stage were suspended the portraits of Bruce and Douglass, surrounded by the American flag. The programme of the exercises were well carried out to the satisfaction of all present. The pupils of this seminary deserve the highest commendation. The following is the programme of exercises: Music, Miss Annie Hamer, prayer; chorus, wellcome, Miss Novella Middleton; mysticisms of life, Lavinia Brown; declamation, John Carter; duet, J. W. Hall; solo, Miss Emma Contee; declamation, Charles Ford; declamation, Wm. E. Gunnell; solo, Miss Lucy A. Johnson; declamation, Ben. Rogers; declamation, Mrs. Alice Hilary; historic deeds, Lewis Hilary; chorus; literary aspirations, Miss Susie Jones; essay, summer, Miss Ellen James; declamation, Isaac Palmer; declamation, S. A. Sumby; solo, Miss Emma Contee; declamation, Miss Charlotte Toles; the universe, Miss Julia Winfield.

After which Mr. W. C. Chase, editor of the Bee, was introduced and delivered an address on behalf of the Seminary. At its conclusion, certificates for scholarship and attendance were presented to the deserving. Mr. Laws was then presented with two useful presents by the pupils of the Seminary. Following is Mr. Chase's address: "Mr. President—By an invitation from your Board of Trustees, which was deemed advisable by them to tender to one like myself, to deliver on behalf of your institution a few suggestive sentiments. While I don't claim to be one gifted in logic and eloquence like some who can edify the imagination, but I always endeavor, however, to speak that which is well known to the people. I cannot but manifest a degree of appreciation for the opportunity that has been so kindly given me by your board, who believe in progress and the elevation of the young. There are times in life when men allow prejudice, ignorance and superstition to predominate over intelligence; but it is not so with you, and the officers of the institution, over which you have the distinguished honor of presiding. While I may not be able in the limited time allotted me to discuss the principles upon which life or existence is made successful. I shall endeavor to point out those impediments which retard our progress, and those things which make life successful.

The Law's Seminary will be a living monument to posterity in after ages when the decrepit parents shall have taken a respective view, and look with pride upon the rising of their children, what thought will be more suggestive to them? Why the institution that has made the son or daughter, the pride of the Republic, or an honor to the Nation. When that mother can look with admiration and pride at her daughter or son, she will conclude that this institution was not founded in vain, that there was something else than empty honors or vain glory. The success or progress of all nationalities is an adherence to the principles of an honest government. When rulers are corrupt, the government is corrupt, and as the rulers are the constituent elements of a government, hence all good governments depend upon the rulers. So it is with the child, that has been trained to be honest, because honesty of purpose, exact in principle, depend largely upon the morality of the government. So it is with progress; no man, woman or child can make progress when they themselves retard that which makes life the gem of happiness. This Seminary, some few days ago, had its examination, the pupils have been under a course of training to fit them to master the difficult problem of life, unless we have the material support of our fellow man, how are we to make successful business men and women?

ONE WAY TO SUCCEED.

There is but one way in life to succeed, and that way is to have perseverance. There is no such thing as fail. The world has made such progress that I have about concluded that there is nothing beyond human possibilities. Science has advanced to such an extent that men can do things that seem impossible to humanity. It has been said that we will never arrive to that stage in life that we can depend upon ourselves. How false is the assertion, how base is the charge, when a few years ago this great Republic held four million human beings in bondage, when the very sun would have shed tears, when the rulers and law makers boasted of the American

Constitution, and at the same time held us up to the civilized world as chatties and beasts, sold upon the auction block to the highest bidder. What can we learn from the past? How does the past compare with the present and how will the future compare with the present? If in the past we were considered nothing else but common chatties, and in the present, American citizens in name, why in the future we shall all be American citizens, in fact, free to exercise every right and privilege as any other citizens of a Republic. They speak about the signs of the times. What are the signs of the time? An attempt on the part of the enemies to progress, to destroy our Republic and degenerate a race which no other Nation will compete with in the next century; the signs of the times are the overthrow of a Republic by a progressive race from advancing beyond that of a common slave; an attempt to deprive us of an institution where the mind is being cultivated to meet any emergency and impenitent that may be thrown before an oppressed race. To an extent we are enemies to ourselves, we prevent the accomplishment and execution of these principles which advance all nations. The object of all institutions is to prepare the mind to promote or increase civilization, to graduate fools or wise men, but at present it seems as if we graduate more fools than men of wisdom. Some institutions excepted of course, we mean no reflection on our esteemed friend and fellow citizen Rev. Laws, there are none who have the confidence and respect of the people more than he in the noble work in which he is engaged. They all tell us that we must forget our old mother tongue and take up that of the advanced age.

That may be all well enough, but mothers we know at this age, both the tongue and brain of our old mothers and we know that the majority of the mothers are different now than what they were when we were young. We have but few mothers now who can make their sons presidents, warriors and statesmen, we have no mothers who can take the place when father is sick, pick the cotton and bale it. Our mothers now are thinking of higher things for the mother and the conclusions our mothers have arrived at now is when papa is unable to work, papa must take the ticket of leave man. O! we have wonderful mothers now, very economical, a cheap piano at four hundred, buds for the sitting room and flowers for the hot-house, out of a salary ranging from 20 to 100 dollars. Our young mothers are so economical now, that the age has begun to wonder. But that mother who has family cares, the education of her children, the up building of morality, an adherence to religion, is the noblest mother of them all. A good and noble mother inspires the son, she directs him to the path of virtue and builds for him a monument which posterity honors and which is an ornament to a Republic. The duty of a good mother is to study economy. There is within a noble and good mother inspiration of success, such qualities that no man possesses, and man cannot pay a nobler tribute to woman than by saying notwith standing her faults.

"Fair woman sweetest prize, Without the what are we? God took from us a paradise But wisely left us thee."

HOW ALL CAN LEARN.

We can learn from the lives of those who have risen above the common level. While I do not mean to speak disparagingly of our colleges, I mean to say that a great deal in life depends upon ourselves. To succeed in life we must enter into every enterprise with a determination to win, we must show to our competitors that if they can make fifty cents bring two dollars, we must make twenty-five cents bring three dollars, we ought to exhibit an inherent quality that is peculiar to any of our competitors. The more you do to retard each others progress you are thrown back just ten years. The less you fail to support your own enterprises the less are your advancements in life.

NEGRO PHILOSOPHY.

If Mr. A keeps a store on this corner and Mr. B on the other corner, our philosophy is that Mr. B is a white man and a good citizen and I shall support Mr. B in preference to Mr. A who is a black man. Mr. A is doing very well from the beginning, but Mr. B bought a wagon last week which we don't like. Mr. A is making a little progress here we must deal with Mr. B. Again we go to a newspaper controlled by white men and pay them 50 cents for an advertisement for a church notice, and on the other hand we take a similar advertisement to colored enterprise and request that such a notice be inserted free of cost. This is negro philosophy, strong but true, observation has taught me this much of our philosophy.

OUR HISTORIANS.

Some of us may become historians; but should that profession be tendered to any of you by nature, guard against the untruth, always follow strictly that principle. The country a few months ago had come to the conclusion that the race had produced a colored historian, but after a careful reading of the supposed history of the colored race in America it was ascertained that some of our greatest men had been misrepresented. The historian went so far as to say that a certain gentleman had done a certain thing, when in fact the man was over four hundred miles from the place. The historian says further in his book, that had this union been destroyed all of us would have been free. Our common sense teaches us that when a thing is destroyed there is no more of it, but when we perceive it then there are hopes of accomplishing certain ends. So it is with the union, it was as Mr. Douglass said the preservation and not the destruction of the union that freed the colored race. There is another principal in life that must be strictly observed and that is to say no more than what we can prove, record nothing but the truth is the vocation of a historian.

UNITY OF ACTION.

The next road to success is unity of action—we all cannot be statesmen, lawyers, doctors etc., here it is necessary for some of us to be mechanics, we all cannot be leaders, therefore it is advisable for some to learn trades. We must remember that each one's

necessaries in life is the race's success. When we look but a few years back there is enough to cause the heart of man to leave its station. We should pray to that immortal creator to continue to deliver us from the depths of degradation and raise us to a more elevated station in life. The fact is we must not pray too much. Some years ago two men went hunting and one was very religious and believed in prayer, while the other believed in prayer to a certain extent, and that extent was to pray and at the same time use some physical power. My religious friend of this narrative stopped still to pray while the other kept on and prayed at the same time, a year came along and killed the man who stopped still. It is a maxim and a true one, God says help yourself and he will help you. So the man whom the bear killed put the whole of that dangerous responsibility of protection to God, so he died. The moral is first help ourselves and then God will help us.

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE AND DOUGLASS.

When this institution shall have produced from its numbers a Bruce or a Douglass, then your worthy instructor will feel that his labor was well spent. These two men are patterns that we should go by, we can learn from their history many things to increase our ambition to reach the latter of fame. Bruce the wise counselor, Douglass the philanthropist, one the statesman and legislator, the other the orator. One whose record as a senator stands without a blemish, the other who has been weighed in the balances and not found wanting. Such examples as these we cheerfully recommend to the consideration of the pupils of Laws Seminary and in these men we can find the elements of success. I shall conclude by saying that the people of South Washington have a seminary and a worthy president at its head, and what is needed to make it more successful is support from the people of this section. Permit me Mr. President to say as you are about to take your summer vacation you have my best wishes for a pleasant journey and a successful career. May your absence from home surround you with enduring friends who will bring to you a fruitful harvest. In you the people of this section of the city have the most implicit confidence as an educator, your success is the institution's and may you ever remember that to meet with success there must be a fixed purpose and honest endeavors which are the most important requisites in life. With these few suggestions you have my thanks for the attention given. I therefore conclude.

STRAIGHT FACTS.

Mr. Editor:—In your last issue you criticized Mr. R. S. S., the Globe correspondent, for not stating, in his report of the proceedings of the Summs Hall meeting, that speeches were delivered in condemnation of the object of the said meeting, and in favor of the proposition that a national convention of colored men be held in September. Mr. R. S. S. retorts thus: "If there were any dynamite fuses at the Timms Hall meeting, they surely exploded while I was out on the committee." From this it is quite clear that Mr. R. S. S. is in doubt. But should he be if he was anywhere about the hall from the time speech-making commenced until it ended? What are the facts? We have in mind now two persons in particular who attended the meeting under consideration—Mr. Geo. M. Arnold and Mr. Lee Vance, both of whom delivered speeches. The former, while speaking, was bold, loud, clear, distinct and unequivocal; so was the latter, except that he was—perhaps inclined to equivocate in touching upon the main question. But when Mr. Vance was through speaking, there was no need for a particle of doubt being in the mind of anyone present as to where he stood. He was heard to say: "If this is the means by which the attention of the proud, somewhat haughty and dominant people of our common land is to be directed to the one pending, momentous question, what is the real status of the industrial condition alone of the great masses of these unfortunate people? I rather favor the proposition. I say, then, let the convention be held, if not here, elsewhere—"

Does not this bear us out? When Mr. Lee Vance made the expression which the writer of this article authoritatively credits to him, at least a half dozen persons excitedly sprang to their feet, and appealed to the chairman to rule him out of order, and an equal number rose, too, and did earnestly insist that he was in order, and must be allowed to proceed. He was allowed to proceed, was attentively listened to, and his entire remarks were consistent with that already quoted. Need Mr. R. S. S. still doubt my assertion that speeches were made in the Timms Hall meeting favorable to the proposed national colored convention? We think not. And more than this, we conclude by telling, or rather reminding, Mr. R. S. S. that Mr. Arnold's speech throughout was condemnatory—it was witheringly rebuking—of the spirit of the opposition which the proposition for the holding of a national convention of colored men encountered. Mr. R. S. S., these are straight facts which you should have reported; but come back again, and I will give you more yet.

Yours,
MISSISSIPPI.

A Man Hard to Kill.

Mr. F. Metts, who is now a thriving and prosperous merchant in Monroe, La., has a remarkable record. He lay in prison twelve months; was in sixty-two battles; was shot through the lungs once; was hit by a twenty-four pound cannon ball in the leg, which necessitated its amputation at the thigh joint; was wounded in all five times; had the mumps, measles and typhoid fever; and is to-day enjoying most excellent health, excepting at times suffering from sympathetic pains, caused from the loss of his leg.

Genius having succeeded in making a steamboat out of paper, it won't be long before an inventive man will produce a railroad eating-house beefsteak made of pasteboard.

"A JUMPING-OFF PLACE."

A Town Which Will Be a Gateway to Mexico—A Mexican Audience.

Laredo is literally the "jumping-off place" for this part of the country, writes a correspondent from Laredo, Tex. Here it is that the Missouri Pacific system finds its most extreme southern end, while from here the Mexican National, and to-be-built international roads, take their start and shoot southward to the city of Mexico, some 800 miles distant. The place is destined, at no very distant day, to be an important stopping point, as it is directly on the route of travel between the United States and Mexico. Laredo, take it as a whole, consists of two parts, North Laredo, located in the United States, and South Laredo, which is upon the opposite shore of the Rio Grande river, in the republic of Mexico. The combined population of the two towns is about 15,000. North Laredo has a little the larger population, and is by far the more civilized and enterprising part. Most of the inhabitants of both sides are Mexicans, although on the Texas side there are a larger number of white people, most of whom, if not engaged on some of the railroads, are interested in business or land in the vicinity.

Laredo is not an inviting looking place, and does not offer many inducements to a person who wishes to live in a decent, comfortable style. The soil on which the town is located is sandy, with some cactus, small bushes or dwarfed trees growing here and there. When the wind blows lustily, a fine alkali dust is distributed all over, and is anything but good for clothes or the eyesight. The houses and most all other buildings are low and flat and uninviting in appearance. The bank building, court house, post office and a few other buildings are, however, substantial appearing, good sized brick structures, which have been built by the Americans. The hotels are veritable curiosities, and, although not serving as appetizing meals as one would obtain at home, get up pretty fair eatables. All milk used is obtained from goats. It is hawked about the streets by Mexicans who ride on a little donkey, which has a can of the goat's milk suspended on either side. The drinking water is obtained from the Rio Grande. It has a queer, soft taste, and seems to have little substance. There are scores of Mexicans here who make their living selling this water about the streets. Go where you will down to the river bank, and you will see from five to twenty of these little water carts. They consist of a large sized barrel mounted on two wheels, and are drawn, each, by one little "burro" or Mexican donkey. I wish that I could picture to you the ludicrousness of one of these outfits—the "burro" itself is the most comical, scraggy, tough, God-forsaken-looking little creature I ever set eyes on. It resembles, for all the world, a huge rat which has just been drowned out of its hole. The burro has a tail which looks as though it had been gnawed half off by an industrious terrier. The streets are quite narrow in places, yet again they will be found wide, well-built and substantial. Most of the persons seen on the streets are Mexicans. They all wear the proverbial "sombbrero," wide, flowing trousers, and are frequently wrapped up in a blanket, generally of some bright color. A Mexican, when attired in his street costume, looks most like the heavy villain one sees on the stage about the time blood is to be shed. The people all seem to be excessively civil and peaceable—always to please you—do not stare at strangers, but appear to have business of their own to attend to, and go about it content not to molest, if left undisturbed. The Mexican National railroad has its main offices at Laredo, on the Texas side. The buildings are constructed of brick, are large, substantial, and present a good appearance. I went to see "Blind Tom" the night I arrived in Laredo. This musical wonder, who has charmed and mystified thousands all over the country for years, has drifted way down into this edge of civilization. He drew a good audience, too, and we were greatly interested, as, seated in a large and well-ventilated hall, located over the principal saloon in the place, I gazed upon an audience which was truly representative of frontier life. There were a few white ladies, generally the wives of Americans employed by the railroad company; several Mexican women, in their peculiar fancy headdress, a number of small children and babies, about a dozen representatives of "Uncle Sam" from the neighboring military post, some in a half-dress uniform, and others wearing simply a civilian's dress and a soldier's air. There were Laredo police—Mexican and American—each with a small silver star on his breast, and a huge revolver on his hip in a belt. Colored people and Mexicans, Americans and Germans, of all ages, sizes and conditions, made up the balance of the audience, which, albeit that it was a curious looking mixture, was at the same time most orderly and appreciative.

The largest single sale of mules ever made in the United States took place at Columbia, Tenn. The purchaser was W. B. Leonard, who paid \$185 a head for 155 animals, making an aggregate of \$28,675. They are for use upon sugar plantations, and will be taken to Louisiana.